



Name of Project: Hawaii Aging and Disability Resource Center

Name of Organization: Hawaii State Executive Office on Aging

Principle of Choices for Independence: Empowerment/Access to Information and Services

Description

The Hawaii Executive Office on Aging is empowering individuals to make informed choices, as well as lifestyle and behavioral changes that are effective in reducing risk of disease and disability. The Hawaii Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) initiative was funded in 2005 to establish a visible and trusted place where people over 60 and people who have physical disabilities can access a single point of entry agency for long-term care supports and services on the island of Hawaii, “The Big Island” in Hilo and on the island of Honolulu in Oahu. The ADRC provides public education and the provision of personalized information, assistance, referral and options counseling through “one-stop shop” resource centers for long-term care supports and resources. It permits the aged and people with disabilities to take more ownership over their long-term care by providing a trusted place in which all of the state’s long-term care options and service provisions are made available for the consumer to select the best options that relate to his or her own unique personal needs.

The Hawaii Executive Office on Aging at the Hilo pilot site secured a highly visible physical site where multiple community and state-based services, such as the Center for Independent Living, will be co-located and complemented by and work in concert with ADRC services. The grantee was influential in Hawaii County’s decision to commit three million dollars to the ADRC and to approve a ten-year lease for the ADRC’s location.

In addition to the ADRC, the Hawaii Executive Office on Aging has received funding from the Administration on Aging for an Evidenced-Based and Disease Prevention program in Honolulu County which is engaging a multicultural population of older adults in enhanced fitness and disease self-management programs. The Healthy Aging Partnership – Empowering Elders (HAP-EE) Initiative has successfully engaged 460 older adults, 180 of which are enrolled in the Stanford Model for Chronic Disease and Self-Management and 280 of which are enrolled in the Enhanced Fitness Program.

The key elements that make the Hawaii Evidenced-Based and Disease Prevention Program work are its key partnerships with the State Department and Health and Hawaii's four area agencies on aging which work to sustain the HAP-EE Initiative.

For more information about these two successful programs contact Audrey Suga-Nakagawa at (808) 840-1819 or by e-mail audsn@hawaii.rr.com